

FISCAL NOTE

SB 76 – HB 1383

March 5, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes a pharmacist to refuse to fill a prescription based on his or her ethical or religious principles.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$30,000

Other Fiscal Impact –

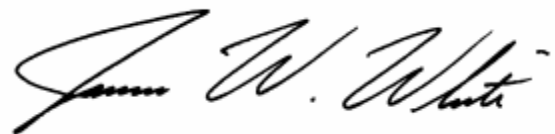
Increase Federal Expenditures – Exceeds \$70,000

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of TennCare, this bill will violate the existing Grier Court Decree. Any statute that places the state in violation of a court order will lead to court-imposed fines.
- According to the Department of TennCare, in instances where a TennCare enrollee is “locked in” to a particular pharmacy in a geographical area where patients have a limited choice of pharmacy it would make it difficult to enforce the Preferred Drug List. Lessened ability to control prescription use by enrollees will increase expenditures.
- The State currently pays approximately 34% of TennCare pharmacy costs and the federal government currently pays approximately 66% of the cost. The state share will increase slightly beginning October 1, 2005.
- Total increase in expenditures to TennCare will exceed \$100,000.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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